## PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME -- GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, whether committed by sophisticated criminals, otherwise honest consumers, or by insurance company employees and owners, insurance fraud is an increasingly expensive burden on our nation's economy; and

WHEREAS, the cost of insurance fraud diverts vital resources away from businesses, law enforcement, the civil justice system, regulatory agencies and local emergency services; and

WHEREAS, each Arkansas family pays an estimated \$1,000 per year in additional insurance costs due to fraud; and

WHEREAS, insurance fraud is often a precursor to other criminal activity, including illicit drug production, terrorist financing and identity theft; and

WHEREAS, the Patriot Act requires certain insurance companies to take active steps to curtail money laundering and fraud activity; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Insurance Department, insurance companies and other organizations throughout the State are working to increase consumer fraud awareness and educate professionals, volunteers and the public about fraud prevention and reporting; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas citizens of all ages need to increase their awareness of fraud in its various forms, including insurance, worker's compensation, financial and home repair and improvement frauds; and

WHEREAS, working together to raise public awareness and understanding of insurance fraud can help prevent this illegal activity, while promoting quality insurance services for our residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Huckabee, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim September 17-23, 2006, as

## INSURANCE FRAUD AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Arkansas and urge all citizens to educate themselves on fraud prevention and identification.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 74 day of August, in the year of our Lord 2006.

MIKE HUCKABEE, GOVERNOR

629

CHARLIE DANIELS, SECRETARY OF STATE